

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of | : | |
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| CARLSON, <i>et al.</i> | : | |
| | : | |
| Serial No. 09/641,101 | : | |
| | : | Examiner Keasel, E. |
| Filed August 17, 2000 | : | Art Unit 3754 |
| | : | |
| For BALL VALVE WITH MODIFIED | : | |
| CHARACTERISTICS | : | |

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Supplemental Response to Non Final Office Action

Sir:

Kindly enter this Supplemental Response to amendment in response to the non final Office Action dated, April 20, 2005. This paper is directly responsive to the Official Communication dated January 6, 2006, objecting to the format of the proposed amendment of claim 43.

Each of the included sections of this amendment is presented below on successive, sequentially-numbered sheets. Each section begins and ends on a sheet reserved to it.

(1) INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-23 and 28-45, all of the claims pending in this application, are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

No claims have been added or canceled.

The amendment to claim 43 now eliminates the word “may” from line 5.

Remarks are presented below traversing the requirement for corrected drawing sheets, setting out the reasons why the requirement is in error.

Remarks are also presented below traversing: (1) the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §251 for new matter; (2) the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement; and (3) the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §251 for improper recapture of subject matter surrendered in the application for the patent upon which the present reissue is based.